

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A tape cartridge comprising:

a tape reel around which a tape-shaped recording medium  
is wound, which is rotatably housed, and which has a reel  
5 teeth portion;

and

a brake-locking member having a brake teeth portion  
capable of being mated with the reel teeth and releasing  
the mating state so that rotation of the tape reel is prevented  
10 when the tape cartridge is not used, and is possible when  
the tape cartridge is used;

wherein the reel teeth portion and the brake teeth  
portion respectively have a plurality of teeth projected  
from a base portion,

15 each of said teeth have a taper portion which is inclined  
toward at least one direction from a tip part of the teeth,  
and vertical portions extending in a substantially vertical  
manner from both terminals of the taper portion to the base  
portion, and

20 at least one portion of each of said teeth is constituted  
so that the vertical portion is opposite to the vertical  
portion at an opposite side upon the mating.

2. A tape cartridge comprising:

25 a tape reel around which a tape-shaped recording medium  
is wound, which is rotatably housed, and which has a reel  
teeth portion;

and

a brake-locking member having a brake teeth portion capable of being mated with the reel teeth and releasing the mating state so that rotation of the tape reel is prevented when the tape cartridge is not used, and is possible when the tape cartridge is used;

wherein the reel teeth portion and the brake teeth portion respectively have a plurality of teeth projected from a base portion,

each of said teeth have a taper portion which is inclined toward at least one direction from a tip part of the teeth, and vertical portions extending in a substantially vertical manner from an end terminal and the tip part of the taper portion to the base portion, and

at least one portion of each of said teeth is constituted so that the vertical portion is opposite to the vertical portion at an opposite side upon the mating.

3. The tape cartridge according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the tip part of each of the teeth is provided with an apex or a flat portion.

4. The tape cartridge according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the tip part is contacted with a bottom surface of the base portion at the opposite side.

5. The tape cartridge according to Claim 4, wherein

a height H (a distance from the base portion to the end terminal of the taper portion) of the vertical portion is satisfied with the following equation, provided that a height of the of each of said teeth from said base portion to tip part is defined by H1:

$$0.6 \times H1 \leq H \leq 0.95 \times H1$$

6. The tape cartridge according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein upon the mating, the tip part is not contacted with a bottom surface of the base portion at the opposite side while the vertical portion is contacted with the vertical portion at the opposite side.

7. The tape cartridge according to Claim 6, wherein a contact height  $\Delta H$  at a mutually contacting portion between said vertical portions is satisfied with following equation, provided that a height from said base portion to the tip part is defined by H1

$$0.2 \times H1 \leq \Delta H \leq 0.9 \times H1$$

8. The tape cartridge according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the reel teeth portion and the brake teeth portion are constituted so that a plurality of the teeth are arranged in a circle manner.